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# The Rise and Rise of Private Security

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# Global & Regional growth

- Private security worldwide estimated to be worth \$165 billion in 2009 & likely to be worth \$244 billion in 2016. Annual growth rate of 7%.
- Fastest growing markets are in the developing world.
- PSCs are a growth industry & significant source of employment across the Pacific Islands region, particularly in those countries most affected by economic globalisation (e.g PNG)
- SW Pacific also a source of recruitment for PSCs (e.g. Fiji)
- Only PNG & Tonga have legislation regulating PSCs

# Mainly talking about private policing providers, however ....



# Who hires PSCs?

- **Government**
- **Businesses/corporations**
- **Universities**
- **International organisations and NGOs**
- **Embassies/High Commissions**
- **Individuals**

**Urban areas, rurally-based resource projects, shopping centres, offices, ports, airports, schools, hospitals, banks, residences....**

# What services do they provide?

- **Personal security: close personal protection & escort**
- **Mobile asset security: valuables in transit**
- **Static security**
- **Rapid response**
- **Security training**
- **Security assessments/intelligence**
- **Supply, installation & monitoring of electronic surveillance**
- **Evacuations**



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# Guard Dog Security



# Growth of Private Security in PNG

- No of licensed security companies increased from 173 in 2006 to 464 in 2016 (SIA)
- Number of security guards employed by licensed companies was 27,709 in 2016 (down from 30,000 in 2014)
- Fluctuations associated with winding down of LNG construction phase
- Estimated to be around 219 unlicensed security companies, employing around 7,649 guards
- Private security: third largest employer in PNG?
- No of private security guards significantly larger than size of PNG's 3 disciplined services combined (RPNGC, PNGDF & CIS)  
Industry worth a conservative 800,000-1 billion Kina

# Regulation – Security (Protection) Industry Act 2004

## Establishes the Security Industries Authority (SIA)

- issuing & revoking licenses
- Specifying minimum standards of training
- Approving equipment other than firearms
- Ensures compliance with Act
- Drafting Code of Conduct governing disciplinary matters and work ethics in industry

SIA chaired by Police Commissioner. Few resources & ltd capacity. Still no clear guidelines for issuing & revoking licenses.





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## Black Swan International – PNG Recruitment

**SECURITY MANAGER**

**SECURITY SUPERVISOR**

**HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER**

Black Swan International is a PNG based, privately owned security company that provides strategic security support to all market segments. Our primary expertise is in designing niche security solutions specifically tailored to meet the unique threats of the PNG environment.

We integrate our expertise and competencies to provide holistic solutions that are tailored for each clients unique situation, and bring a culture of compliance, accountability, and a relentless performance to succeed at each project.

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## Enormous variation

- Size & Organisation
- Capabilities
- Services offered
- Technology employed
- Area of operations
- Ownership
  
- Guard Dog (3,622 guards alone + support staff)
- G4S Secure Solutions (3,390 guards)
- Black Swan International (around 780)
- Wilsons – Manus (622 guards in 2013) (plus a further 280 subcontracted through a local company)



# Security at Resource Projects



# What is driving the growth of private security in PNG?

- Economic globalisation associated with natural resource industries
- Weak & diminishing capabilities of RPNGC (7,000-8,000??)
- Insecurity
- Significant foreign & local investment in private security (transnational corporations; political & business elites; landowner groups)
- Business investment in security personnel & infrastructure is significantly higher in PNG than the average for the E Asia & Pacific, Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin American regions (WB 2014)

# National Security Strategy 2013

- “the growing presence and involvement of foreign Private Security Companies in the country undermines the state’s ability and authority to deliver public safety and security. It is compounded by the growing negative public sentiments against their presence which is viewed as undermining and denying local participation in the industry”.
- Do these concerns apply only to ‘foreign’ operators?



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# Concluding Thoughts

- Significant reordering of security governance in PNG over past 2 decades
- Elite investment in PS (reinforcing disinvestment in public security?)
- Progressive blurring between private/public security: public police operating privately; private police operating publicly
- Policing/security as a 'public' or 'private' good?
- Who benefits; who loses?
- Opportunities for public/private partnerships?
- New approaches to regulation in this area: regional & transnational